

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCI-02 ABF-01 AEC-05 ACDA-05 RSC-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS: IAEA

SUBJECT: GAO REQUEST RE SAFEGUARDS INSPECTIONS

REF: IAEA VIENNA 8410

1. GAO IS CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION OF US INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR PROGRAM AT REQUEST OF CONG. MORGAN, CHAIRMAN, HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMITE. INVESTIGATION LIMITED TO PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY AND EMPHASIZES HISTORY OF AGREEMENTS FOR COOPERATION, APPLICATION OF BILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS, RELATIONSHIP OF PHYSICAL SECURITY MEASURES AND OTHER BILATERAL CONDITIONS TO INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS, AND CURRENT EVENTS SUCH AS PROPOSED ISRAEL/EGYPT AGREEMENTS. GAO REPS HAVE BEEN WORKING AT AEC AND SCI/AE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS.

2. EXPANDING ON LETTER FROM CONAHAN TO MISSION QUOTED IN REFTEL, LOCAL GAO OFFICE STATES INFORMALLY THAT IT WISHES TO OBTAIN FOLLOWING KINDS OF INFO IN VIENNA:

(A) DETAILS OF TRILATERAL SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENTS INVOLVING UNCLASSIFIED

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(B) DETAILS OF IAEA PROJECT AGREEMENTS CONCERNING US-SUPPLIED NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, E.G., LAGUNA VERDE AND KRSKO.

(C) INFO ON RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCEDURES OF MISSION.

(D) SAFEGUARDS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF IAEA (WITHOUT GETTING INTO DETAIL ON ACTUAL INSPECTIONS).

3. DEPT RECOGNIZES, AND WASHINGTON GAO REPS HAVE BEEN INFORMED, THAT INFORMATION GAO WISHES TO OBTAIN IN VIENNA WILL ALREADY HAVE BEEN AVAILABLE TO THEIR AUDITORS IN WASHINGTON END OF STUDY AND THAT VIENNA REVIEW WILL BE LARGELY DUPLICATIVE. GAO NEVERTHELESS WISHES INCLUDE FIELD PHASE IN THEIR STUDY, AND DEPT DESIRES COOPERATE.

4. GAO REPS WILL REVIEW IN DETAIL SCOPE OF QUESTIONS THEY WILL WISH TO PURSUE DIRECTLY WITH SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS. GAO UNDERSTANDS THAT SECRETARIAT UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO MEET WITH GAO STAFF OR TO MAKE AVAILABLE ANY INFORMATION. FURTHERMORE GAO UNDERSTANDS THAT ALL CONTACTS WITH SECRETARIAT WILL BE ARRANGED BY AND AT DISCRETION OF MISSION. MISSION OFFICER SHOULD ACCOMPANY GAO OFFICIALS ON VISITS TO AGENCY AND REPORT TO DEPT. MISSION SHOULD MAKE CLEAR TO AGENCY THAT GAO REVIEW IS IN CONTEXT INTERNAL USG REVIEW OF SAFEGUARDS QUESTIONS AND IN NO SENSE REPRESENTS INDEPENDENT MEMBER STATE AUDIT OF AGENCY'S RESPONSIBILITIES.

5. GAO POLICY RE ITS INTEREST IN OPERATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WAS STATED BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL STAATS ON MARCH 5, 1970, IN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND MOVEMENTS. AT THAT TIME, HE STATED IN PART (PG 5) QUOTE I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT IT IS NOT THE OBJECTIVE OF THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE TO REVIEW THE INTERNAL OPERATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. INDEED, WE, LIKE OTHER MEMBER GOVERNMENTS, DO NOT HAVE AUTHORITY TO AUDIT THEIR ACTIVITIES. UNQUOTE. FULL TEXT STAATS STATEMENT AIR POUCHED.

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6. DEPT UNDERSTANDS GAO VISIT SCHEDULED START OCTOBER 21.

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Message Attributes

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